

Thursday 30th April 2026

Ashwater Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.22 Summer Term

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to the Summer Term and they have certainly brought the sunshine with them!

As you will have seen in the letter sent to you before the Easter holidays, St Giles-on-the-Heath School is now part of The Carey Federation.

On the last day of term, we had an assembly where the children of Halwill and Ashwater joined St Giles' children via Teams. We explained to the children that they would now all be part of one Federation and helped them to understand what this would mean for them. Children from all 3 schools had the opportunity to ask any questions. It really was a special assembly because the feeling of warmth and belonging from the children at all 3 schools was palpable. The Halwill and Ashwater children taught the St Giles children the motto, including actions. The St Giles children have really enjoyed learning the motto and explaining that in The Carey Federation we encourage the children to: Aim High, Be Resilient and Take Care of Each Other.

Website and Logo

We were busy over the Easter holidays incorporating St Giles into the Federation website. It is very important that all our schools feel part of the Federation, whilst retaining its own identity.

As you can see, the Federation logo has been updated to include St Giles.

We look forward to more opportunities for children to collaborate together.



Upcoming Events

April 30

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

Board Games – YR – Y6

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

May 4

Bank Holiday

May 6

Athletics After School Club – YR – Y6

May 7

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

Tempest Class Photos

Board Games After School Club – YR – Y6

May 8

PTFA Meeting – 9am

May 11

11th May – 14th May – Y6 SATS

May 21

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

May 22

Last day of term

June 1

First day back

June 4

Class 1 Assembly to parents – 9am

Class 2 Assembly to parents – 3.45pm

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

June 5

Non-Pupil day

June 11

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

Dates

As you will see most of the Summer Term dates have been set. We will shortly set the Open Evening & Summer Concert as well as Year 6 Leavers.

We hope you will join us for the class assemblies which are an opportunity for children to share what they have been learning with you.

4th June

Class 1 Assembly to parents – 9.00am

Class 2 Assembly to parents – 3.45pm

On Monday 4th May there is a Bank Holiday and please don't forget Friday 5th June is a non-pupil day. It is also the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show.

The week of 11th May is SATs week. Year 6 children should continue to Aim High and do their best to revise and prepare for these doing any additional homework set. Whatever their final results, the most important thing will be that have done their very best. It's also important to continue to be active and take part in clubs and activities and eat and sleep well and remember that the children's wellbeing is important. So the aim should be a balance between working hard for tests whilst knowing that this is just one snapshot of their lives. The power point we shared with parents some weeks ago will be recirculated to you.

Swimming

We are delighted to continue to offer swimming lessons in our Summer term. Please see the upcoming events displaying the dates and year groups. In previous years, we have not charged for this, however, as costs are rising, this year we will be looking for a contribution of £5 per child per session for swimming and the coach. This will be on MCAS.

Head Lice and Nits

As head lice are caught by head-to-head contact they spread easily amongst young children and are very common in primary schools. To help prevent the spread of head lice, we ask that long hair is tied up and that hair is regularly checked at home. Wet combing regularly using a detection comb can help catch head lice early. Please see more information:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Packed Lunches

As a Healthy School we do encourage healthy packed lunches. Please see some ideas and inspiration here: <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher



Upcoming Events

June 18

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

June 19

Tempest Leavers Photos

June 25

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

June 26

The Gruffalo, Theatre Trip YR, Y1 and Y2.

July 1

Sports Day – 1.45pm – 3.30pm

July 2

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

July 6

6th July – 10th July Y5 & Y6 Activities Week

July 9

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

July 16

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

July 22

Last day of term

NO NUTS Please keep our children with severe nut allergies safe. It is imperative that no **Nuts or Nut products** are brought into school. Could all parents **PLEASE** be extra vigilant, especially with some cereal bars which contain nuts.

Your support is appreciated.



THE CAREY FEDERATION



Useful Links

School Contact Details

Tel: 01409 211228

Email:

admin@ashwater.devon.sch.uk

Website:

[Halwill Primary School – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](http://www.halwillprimaryschool.co.uk)

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to one of the safeguarding team or email safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ruh Alford

Deputy Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Catherine Gee

Miss Hayley Frayn

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

Safeguarding Governor

Becky Bridgeman

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

These are on our website:

<https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>

School Lunches – please book by Sunday for the

BOOK YOUR *CRICKET* SESSION NOW!
 @HOLSWORTHY CRICKET CLUB



ECB ALL STARS CRICKET
 THURSDAYS
 5:15PM - 6:00PM
 STARTING 21ST MAY

TO BOOK ALL STARS
 USE THIS QR CODE









ECB DYNAMOS CRICKET
 FRIDAYS
 5:15PM - 6:15PM
 STARTING 22ND MAY

TO BOOK DYNAMOS
 USE THIS QR CODE



Saturday 13th June 2026

Hatherleigh Carnival's
COLOUR RUN
with a
TWIST

Hatherleigh's Colourful Event of the year!

5k & 2.5k ROUTES

ADULTS £15 • CHILDREN £10

Each participant will receive a medal
 & a white T-shirt!

The party will continue in the square with the presentation of this year's carnival royalty.

BAR • FOOD • MUSIC from
HSB & The Ginja Ninja

Registration from 12.30pm Run 3.30pm

Scan to Enter!



Enter by 2nd June!

<https://www.hatherleighcarnival.co.uk>





Family Hub Advice &
Guidance Line, 0800
5385458

Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

'Connecting Moments'- Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?

Join us for **Connecting Moments** – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What's it all about?

- Connect with other families in a small, welcoming group
- Share experiences and ideas
- Build a peer support network

Please join us on the **12th December at 10am**, for a **1 hour session**– email childsc.familyhub-mailbox@devon.gov.uk to book a space, places are limited and the session will be run via Teams.

If you would like support from the Devon family hub, please scan this QR code and complete our request for support form

Devon
County Council



BEST
START
IN LIFE

DiAS
Devon Information
Advice and Support
for Special Educational Needs and Disability





Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Unauthorised Holiday/Leave Request

As you will be aware, Government Guidance advises that schools should not authorise requests for term time absence unless the school has received suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Government does not consider a family holiday to be an exceptional circumstance.

In the absence of suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances, on this occasion the school cannot authorise your request for a Term Time Absence. We believe that if students are to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement, and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you still choose to take your child out of school unauthorised, then the school must refer the absence to the Local Authority for the consideration of initiating Parental Responsibility Measures. If you have Parental Responsibility, this could mean receiving any of the following.

- A Penalty Notice. Should a Penalty Notice be issued, one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £160, which is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated. If a previous Penalty Notice has been issued within the past 2 years, then the Local Authority will proceed straight to Court.
- A Magistrates Summons that could lead to a criminal record, a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

We understand the disappointment that a refusal may cause, but as you can appreciate, this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards ensuring your child's full and efficient education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher